

## Our Philosophy

**BARC practices open adoptions.** As a BARC foster, you represent BARC to potential adopters and the public. Please see below as a guide for selecting adopters.

It's important to note that practicing open adoptions does not mean saying "yes" to everyone, no questions asked. Get to know your adopters through conversation instead of focusing on the pass/fail application format. Just think about how easy it is to misinterpret the tone of an email or text and how much easier it is to talk about it over the phone or in person. The same concept applies here. For example, a potential adopter may say they are going to declaw their cat because that's what they did growing up, having no idea how painful it is. A simple conversation can go a long way.

- Families do not have to meet specific criteria to adopt. **Ask adopters open-ended questions, listen respectfully, and keep in mind that there is not just one perfect type of home** for your pet.
- **BARC does not support declawing** – educate adopters about scratching post options or 'soft paws' nail caps
- **BARC does not do home visits, background checks, or other privacy-invading tactics** to determine whether a home is a good fit. Please follow that guidance.
- **Is it a good match?** Will the pet have companionship and its physical and mental needs met? If so, you have a winner!